THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

Setting up of Joint Business Commission between India and Iran

2095. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Iran have agreed to set up a Joint Business Commission to provide a forum for exchange of business information and increased interaction between business representatives of the two countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) There is no agreement between India and Iran for a "Joint Business Commission". However, the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and the Iranian Chamber of Commerce and Industry signed an agreement in 1982 to establish a Joint Business Council (JBC). No meeting of the JBC has been held so far.

Central investment in Gujarat

2096. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decrease has been observed in the Central Investment in Gujarat during 1993-94 as compared to 1992-93;

(b) if so, the reasons, therefor;

(c) what has been the proportion of Central Investment in the State during the last three years; and

(d) what remedial steps are proposed to be taken by Government to enhance Central Investment in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA): (a) to (c) The Central Investment is made for the country as a whole keeping the national priorities in view. It is neither planned nor accounted State-wise.

(d) Keeping in view the priorities laid down for the Eighth Plan, the proposal of Government of Gujarat in this regard, as and when received will be considered on merits and the priorities of the State.

Warehouses in Punjab

2097. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of warehouses under the Central Warehousing Corporation in the State of Punjab; and

(b) the details thereof with their total capacity district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) District-wise warehouses of CWC in the state of Punjab as on 30.9.95 alongwith figures of total storage capacity

S. No.	District	No. of Warehouses of CWC	Total storage capacity (in tonnes)
1	2	3	4
1.	Amritsar	4	81521
2.	Bhatinda	2	26347
3.	Faridkot	6	137302
4.	Ferozpur	5	68034
5.	Gurdaspur	3	69367
6.	Hoshiarpur	2	20000
7.	Jullandhar	1	14900
8.	Ludhiana	1	19713
9.	Patiala	3	141884
10.	Rupnagar (Ropar)	1	8138
11.	Sangrur	1	92987
	TOTAL:	29	6,80,193

Notices served by ESTS authorities for recovery of damages

2098. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:
SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the Employees State Insurance Scheme (ESIS) authorities are harassing the employers by sending them notices for recovery of damages as old as 30 years for which no notice was given earlier; and

(b) in what manner this problem will be sorted out?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) The provisions relating to levy of damages for delayed payments of ESI contributions were introduced in 1975 and made effective from 1.9.1975. The damages are levied on the defaulting employer for delayed payment of contribution after the contribution is paid by the employer, on the basis of the record maintained in the office regarding the dates of payment by the employer. Before lavy of damages the employer is given an opportunity to explain why the damages on the delayed payment of contribution be not levied. The employer is also given an opportunity of being heard before damages are levied. In all cases where the contribution is paid late by the employer. He/she is aware of the delayed payment. Hence it is for the employer to keep the relevant record.

8th Five Year Plan progress in Kalahandi district of Orissa

2099. SHRI BASANT KUMAR DAS: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made regarding the progress of the Eighth Five Year Plan in Kalahandi district in Orissa;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether any programme made earlier than the Eighth Five Year Plan is